

Arsenal Leads In Scientific Farming Methods

Leading other government arsenals thruout the country in soil conservation is the Joliet Arsenal's program of scientific farming.

Grass waterways, now in season for seeding, at present are the main concern of George Killinger, who heads the farm management program.

The success of the waterways and other methods in stopping erosion of soil has resulted in other arsenals thruout the country in setting up conservation programs too.

There are now about 25,000 acres of farm land leased to farmers on the Joliet arsenal. Conservation is well along on much of the farming land.

A soil survey, listing every type of soil on these lands, has already been completed.

Typical of the results of conservation in saving the soil is a field just off highway 66 near the arsenal railroad overpass. Here erosion had created gulleys eight feet wide. These were steadily eating into the fields, carrying off topsoil with every rain.

Recently bulldozers and scrapers were brought in by Killinger, the gulleys leveled and making a smooth slope where crops can grow. Contour farming was already being practiced. The result will be increased productivity of the field and more profit for the farmer.